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Docket No. 2001-024-TAP

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE STORAGE DEVICE DATA TRANSFER RATE

A method and apparatus for timing reads and writes to a moving physical storage medium capable of being operated over a continuous range of speeds is disclosed. Reference regions on the moving storage medium are read as the medium moves past a read head. This produces a timing signal, which can be processed to produce a clock signal. This clock signal can then be used to time reads and writes to and from the medium so that the medium may be read or written to at any speed, while preserving the same physical size for each recording item of data on the medium.